

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraphs 7 and 23-27 with the following amended paragraphs 7 and 23-27:

- (7) The land plane of the present invention is used to smooth and level any
5 irregularities in the surface of an agricultural field. The land plane of the present invention includes a main frame, a first wing frame attached to the first side of the main frame adjacent the front end thereof, a second wing frame attached to the second side of the main frame adjacent the rear end thereof, a V-shaped ~~scraper~~ scraper blade having an apex adjacent the front end of the main frame, a first transverse ~~scraper~~ scraper blade
10 extending diagonally from the first wing frame across the main frame to the second wing frame and having a gap adjacent the second side of the main frame, and a second transverse ~~scraper~~ scraper blade means extending diagonally from the first wing frame across the main frame to the second wing frame, parallel to and spaced rearwardly from the first transverse ~~scraper~~ scraper blade. The preferred embodiment of the present
15 invention can be described as an off-set wing land plane having a main frame approximately 40 feet (12.2 meters) long, 16 feet (4.9 meters) wide, with an overall width of 34 feet (10.4 meters) when the wings are folded down to deployed, in-use positions. The right wing is located toward the front of the main frame, and the left wing is located toward the rear of the main frame so that a pair of parallel blade means can extend
20 diagonally across the land plane at a 1-to-1 or 45° rearward angle.
- (23) The land plane **11** includes a V-shaped ~~scraper~~ scraper blade means **59** having an

apex **61**. The V-shaped ~~scraper~~ scraper blade means **59** is mounted to and beneath the main frame **13** with the apex **61** adjacent the front end **19** of the main frame **13**

substantially centered between the first and second sides **23**, **25** of the main frame **13** (see Figs. 1 and 2), via braces **63** or the like. The V-shaped ~~scraper~~ scraper blade means

5 **59** may be formed by a first straight ~~scraper~~ scraper blade **65** mounted to and beneath the main frame **13** with the inner end thereof located at the apex **61** and with the outer end thereof extending rearwardly and outwardly from the apex **61** towards the first side **23** of the main frame **13**, and a second straight ~~scraper~~ scraper blade **67** mounted to and beneath the main frame **13** with the inner end thereof located at the apex **61** and with
10 the outer end thereof extending rearwardly and outwardly from the apex **61** towards the second side **25** of the main frame **13**. Thus, the apex **61** may be formed by the overlapping or butted inner ends of the ~~scraper~~ scraper blades **65**, **67**.

(24) The land plane **11** includes a first transverse ~~scraper~~ scraper blade means **69** mounted to and beneath the main frame **13**, the first wing frame **15**, and the second wing
15 frame **17** via brackets **70** or the like. The first transverse ~~scraper~~ scraper blade means **69** extends diagonally from the first wing frame **15** across the main frame **13** to the second wing frame **17**. A critical feature of the present invention is that the first transverse ~~scraper~~ scraper blade means **69** has a gap **71** adjacent the second side **25** of the main frame **13** (see Fig. 1). The first transverse ~~scraper~~ scraper blade means **69** preferably
20 includes a first ~~scraper~~ scraper blade **73** mounted to and beneath the first wing frame **15**, a main ~~scraper~~ scraper blade **75** mounted to and beneath the main frame **13**, and a second ~~scraper~~ scraper blade **77** mounted to and beneath the second wing frame **17** with the gap **71** of the first transverse ~~scraper~~ scraper blade means **69** formed between

the main and second ~~scraper~~ scraper blades **75, 77**. The first and second ~~scraper~~ scraper blades **73, 75** are designed so that when the wing frames **15, 17** are moved between the deployed, in-use position and the folded, transport position, the first and second ~~scraper~~ scraper blades **73, 77** will move with the respective wing frame **15, 17**.

- 5 The adjacent ends of the first and main ~~scraper~~ scraper blades **73, 75** are designed so that they will overlap or abut one another when the first wing frame **15** is in the deployed, in-use position as shown in Fig. 1.

(25) The land plane **11** includes a second transverse ~~scraper~~ scraper blade means **79** mounted to and beneath the main frame **13**, the first wing frame **15**, and the second wing
10 frame **17** via braces **81** or the like. The second transverse ~~scraper~~ scraper blade **79** is positioned parallel to and spaced rearwardly from the first transverse ~~scraper~~ scraper blade means **69**, and extending diagonally from the first wing frame **15**, across the main frame **13** to the second wing frame **17**. The second transverse ~~scraper~~ scraper blade means **79** preferably includes a first ~~scraper~~ scraper blade **83** mounted to and beneath
15 the first wing frame **15**, a main ~~scraper~~ scraper blade **85** mounted to and beneath the main frame **13**, and a second ~~scraper~~ scraper blade **87** mounted to and beneath the second wing frame **17**. The first and second ~~scraper~~ scraper blades **83, 87** are designed so that when the wing frames **15, 17** are moved between the deployed, in-use position and the folded, transport position, the first and second ~~scraper~~ scraper blades **83, 87**
20 will move with the respective wing frame **15, 17**. The adjacent ends of the first and main ~~scraper~~ scraper blades **83, 85** and the main and second scraper blades **85, 87** are designed so that they will overlap or abut one another when the wing frames **15, 17** are in the deployed, in-use position as shown in Fig. 1.

(26) The land plane 11 may be constructed in various manners and out of various materials as will now be apparent to those skilled in the art. Thus, for example, as hereinabove mentioned, the main frame 13 and wing frames 15, 17 may consist of open frameworks constructed out of metal tubing or the like, cut, welded and reinforced as desired. The various ~~scraper~~ scraper blades are preferably off-the-shelf type agricultural blades and may be joined to the respective frames 13, 15, 17 in a manner that allows independent adjustment for height and tension, if desired, in any typical manner now apparent to those skilled in the art.

(27) The operation of the land plane 11 is as follows: First, the land plane 11 is joined to the tow vehicle V via the hitch 29. Because the hitch 29 is part of the upper portion of the main frame 13, the land plane 11 will be pulled by the tow vehicle V from the upper portion of the main frame 13 rather than the bottom or ground level as required by prior art land planes. The various hydraulic components of the land plane 11 can be connected to the hydraulic system of the tow vehicle V to allow the driver of the tow vehicle V to easily operate and control the land plane 11. The wing frames 15, 17 can be raised to the folded, transport position for being pulled over roads, highways, etc., to the agricultural field to be planed. Once at the agricultural field to be planed, the wing frames 15, 17 are lowered to the deployed, in-use position, and the land plane 11 is then pulled over the surface S of the field. The layout and position of the various blade means 59, 69, 79 are critical to the present invention and provides important benefits. First, the forward, V-shaped ~~scraper~~ scraper blade means 59 acts as a stabilizer for the two, parallel transverse ~~scraper~~ scraper blade means 69, 79. Also, the specific layout of the blade means 59, 69, 79 causes dirt to flow substantially as indicated by the arrows in Fig.

1. That is, the V-shaped ~~scraper~~ scraper blade means **59** will both act as a stabilizer and cause dirt to flow outward and rearward to the first transverse ~~scraper~~ scraper blade means **69** in the direction of arrows **89** in Fig. 1. The first transverse ~~scraper~~ scraper blade means **69** will cause dirt to flow generally rearward and toward the left or second
5 side of the land plane **11** as indicated by arrows **91** in Fig., 1, but with a portion of the dirt flowing through the gap **71** in the first transverse ~~scraper~~ scraper blade means **69** as indicated by arrows **93** in Fig. 1. The second transverse ~~scraper~~ scraper blade means **79** will also cause dirt to flow generally rearward and toward the left or second side of the land plane **11** as indicated by arrows **95** in Fig. 1.

Please replace the Abstract of the Disclosure with the following amended Abstract of the Disclosure:

A land plane to smooth and level any irregularities in the surface of an agricultural field. The land plane includes a main frame; a first wing frame attached to the first side of the main frame adjacent the front end thereof, a second wing frame attached to the second side of the main frame adjacent the rear end thereof; a V-shaped ~~scraper~~ scraper blade having an apex adjacent the front end of the main frame; a first transverse ~~scraper~~ scraper blade extending diagonally from the first wing frame across the main frame to the second wing frame and having a gap adjacent the second side of the main frame; and a second transverse ~~scraper~~ scraper blade means extending diagonally from the first wing frame across the main frame to the second wing frame, parallel to and spaced rearwardly from the first transverse ~~scraper~~ scraper blade.